

Congress Faces Countdowns On Economy, Expanded War

by Nancy Spannaus

Jan. 15—“We are currently operating on a timeline of mere weeks. Obama must be removed from office now, on charges that he has violated the U.S. Constitution, and a new Presidency must be formed to adopt as its platform the threefold program to save the United States.”

So concludes the latest mass leaflet being circulated by LaRouchePAC in Washington, D.C., as the 113th Congress convenes. Reinforced by calls coming into Congressional offices from citizens supporting the threefold program of Glass-Steagall, Hamiltonian national banking, and NAWAPA, teams of LPAC organizers and state delegations are invading the Capitol, to demand that their representatives act *in time* to prevent strategic and economic disaster.

On the strategic front, the crucial point of engagement is what some call Benghazi-gate, the still largely unprobed murder of U.S. Amb. Chris Stevens and three other Americans by al-Qaeda terrorists on 9/11/2012. Extensive evidence put together from public sources by *EIR* investigators has revealed that the root of the problem lies in the Obama Administration’s alliance with the very al-Qaeda assassins who carried out the murder. This crucial policy decision, correctly described as treason, is what must be aired at upcoming hearings with outgoing Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, and in confirmation hearings for Cabinet nominees for State, Defense, and CIA. Any delay means the alliance with al-Qaeda will continue—especially in Syria—where it can lead to regional, or even nuclear war.

On the economic front, the leading edge is the im-

mediate passage of HR 129, the new bill by Reps. Marcy Kaptur (D-Ohio) and Walter Jones (R-N.C.) which calls for reinstatement of Glass-Steagall; and the introduction and passage of a companion bill in the Senate. As of this writing, Rep. Michael Michaud (D-Me.) has also signed on to HR 129, and many others are sure to do so soon. As noted prominently in the London *Daily Telegraph* Jan. 12, by Glass-Steagall supporter Liam Halligan, momentum is growing internationally, including among conservatives and Republicans. The question is whether the measure will be taken in time to prevent a new crash.

Against the Austerity Agenda

LaRouchePAC’s drive for “Glass-Steagall-plus” is finding fertile ground, particularly among the growing ranks of Congressmen disgusted with the President’s and the Republican leadership’s austerity agenda. It doesn’t take a genius to understand that the kind of cuts in health care, infrastructure, and incomes being implemented in Europe—as in Greece and Spain—leads to devastation of the population. Even balanced-budget ideologues are looking for alternatives to such a future.

They are not getting any alternative from the President, of course. Donning his narcissistic, imperious mantle of “I was just re-elected,” Obama is demanding that Congress adopt his “balanced” deficit-reduction approach, which slashes health care, Social Security, NASA, and other vital programs, and continues the hyperinflationary bank-bailout program that is sustaining the predatory Wall Street and London banks.



EIRNS/Bob Baker

The battle for LaRouche's threefold recovery program, beginning with Glass-Steagall, is underway. Here, LaRouchePAC organizers campaign in Philadelphia, at a labor rally last August.

One clear signal of the actual content of the Obama program was his nomination of his current Chief of Staff Jacob Lew to replace Tim Geithner as Treasury Secretary. As exposed by Sen. Bernie Sanders (I-Vt.) during hearings in 2010, Lew is an avowed opponent of Glass-Steagall, among other banking regulations, as well as an “expert” in budget cutting. During an interview on Democracy Now Jan. 11, former bank regulator William Black characterized him succinctly:

“So, this is a guy who designed the disaster, participated in the disaster on Wall Street, was made rich by it. We haven’t talked about the fact that he got a huge bonus for helping to destroy the world at Citicorp. And he got it through the bailout of Citicorp by the U.S. government.

“So he produces disaster, profits from the disaster, we pay him bonuses for causing the disaster, and then we have the absurdity of the president of the United States saying that this is a man with a track record of unmitigated success.”

The Only Alternative

While others provide sharp criticism, LaRouchePAC is putting forward the only viable alternative to the current system. While making clear that Glass-Steagall is essential to *cut* the umbilical cord between the U.S. government and the bankrupt casino-banks, LPAC organizers are stressing that such a measure must immediately be followed up by creating credit to build up the physical economy through massive infrastructure pro-

grams, such as the North American Water and Power Alliance (NAWAPA), that would create millions of productive jobs. It’s not money that is the crux of an economy, but production.

Not since President John F. Kennedy has there been such a grand vision put before the Congress, but LPAC organizers are finding a surprising receptivity. After all the other recipes for “recovery” have ended in disaster, Congressmen and their aides are anxious to hear about the periods of American history when an actual economic growth policy succeeded, such as those of Presidents John Quincy Adams and Franklin Roosevelt. In this context, LPAC’s recent pamphlet exposing the treason of Andrew Jackson is playing a critical role.

And in the States

Pressure from local and state officials plays a vital role in getting Congress to move, and for that reason, LPAC organizers are seeking to pass memorial resolutions for Glass-Steagall and impeachment of Obama, in state legislatures around the country. As of this writing, resolutions to reinstate Glass-Steagall have been introduced into the State Senates of Virginia (SJR273) and Kentucky (SJR16), and the State Legislature of Montana (HJR4). They call on the state representatives to tell Congress to act, by immediately passing the Kaptur/Jones bill.

Additional resolutions have been introduced in Rhode Island and South Dakota, but have not yet had numbers assigned. Organizing forays into states such as Texas, California, Washington, New Jersey, New York, and Michigan—among others—are expected to generate much more activity in the near future.

The most crucial aspect of that activity is the degree to which it increases the pressure on Congress to act in time. When the world is hovering on the brink of thermonuclear war, and facing a breakdown crisis of unprecedented proportions, there are no “local issues.” The fundamental change in direction embodied in the LaRouchePAC program, and the elimination from power of that program’s most powerful opponent, President Obama, are in the vital interests of all citizens.

The question is only whether a sufficient number of them will find the courage to lead the others to get the job done.